

# PARISH OF STRADBROKE

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held in the COMMUNITY CENTRE, STRADBROKE on THURSDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2018 at 7.30PM

**Present:** 93 members of the public, including 6 members of the Parish Council

**In attendance:** Cllr Julie Flatman (MSDC); Odile Wladon (Clerk to the Parish Council)

**Apologies for absence:** Ellie Wharton, Velda Lummis, Toni Wisbey, Michael Hugman, Kate Axon, Rev. Loxton and Cllr Guy McGregor.

1. The Chairman of the Parish Council, Ellie Wharton, was unable to attend. In the absence of a Vice Chair of the Parish Council, it was agreed by those present that David Turner would chair the meeting.

David Turner welcomed all to the meeting:

*On behalf of the Parish Council it gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to this year's Annual Parish Meeting, I am very thankful to all of you, as you have been kind enough to spare your valuable time to be here with us this evening.*

*The weather might not be as great this week but on the bright side we've got tea, biscuits, a great venue here and the pub is close too.*

*I think so many of you are here tonight because we share a single common goal – we want to make Stradbroke a better place to live ... for us, our children and our children's children. How we do that, the policies and actions that are taken, are what we need to discuss here tonight.*

*I understand we are all passionate about the village ... and with passion, anger, shouting, name calling can occur, but this is never constructive and is offensive. So, for that reason, I ask everyone here to behave in a respectful manner. As god tells us "treat others as you would like to be treated yourself."*

2. The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2017 were unanimously approved and signed.
3. There were no matters arising from the Minutes.
4. Reports were received from the following organisations from both within and outside Stradbroke and are appended to the minutes:
  - 4.1 Stradbroke Parish Council
  - 4.2 Cllr Guy McGregor – Suffolk County Council
  - 4.3 Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team
  - 4.4 Stradbroke High School
  - 4.5 Stradbroke CE Primary School
  - 4.6 Stradbroke Charitable Trust and Stradbroke Trust
  - 4.7 Stradbroke Courthouse & Library Trust
  - 4.8 Stradbroke Good Neighbours
  - 4.9 Stradbroke Media
  - 4.10 Stradbroke Monthly
  - 4.11 Stradbroke Sports & Community Centre
  - 4.12 PCC
  - 4.13 Women's Institute
  - 4.14 Stradbroke Cricket Club

- 4.15 Youth Football
- 4.16 A verbal report was received from the Table Tennis club who appealed for more members to come along to their sessions that will recommence every Wednesday from the beginning of September and run through to March. The cost is £1.50 per adult and £1.00 for children.
- 4.17 The adult football team will resume, a volunteer to take on the Secretary role was required.
- 4.18 Cllr Flatman (Mid Suffolk District Councillor) presented her report, a copy is appended to the minutes. Her report was met with amusement regarding the donation towards “responsible weapons training” all concerned were relieved to learn that the weapons themselves are not lethal ones.

5. Matters arising from the reports:

4.1 Parish Council – James Hargrave proposed a vote of thanks to Paul Bryant and the Strategic Planning Policy team at Mid Suffolk District Council for their help and support in the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. This was supported. Cllr Flatman agreed to pass these on.

4.3 Stradbroke Charitable Trust – Chris Edwards proposed a recommendation to the Parish Council that a plaque be displayed in the surgery thanking the original trustees for their work in securing the surgery in Stradbroke. This was supported.

- 6. A member of the public was delighted to hear about the activities that take place in Stradbroke, but commented that she was saddened to have received an anonymous letter only signed “concerned residents”. Discussions took place on this subject and the authors of the letter identified themselves. It was agreed that using anonymous correspondence was not the way to communicate concerns. The Parish Council listened to the concerns raised at the meeting and were appreciative of the support received.
- 7. Concerns were raised about speeding and parking in the village. The Parish Council responded that the proposed Neighbourhood Plan was designed to try and alleviate these issues. Copies of the Neighbourhood Plan and associated documents were on display in the hall.
- 8. The audited Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 were available for review.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.30 and refreshments were served.

**Signed:**

**Chairman**

**25<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

## PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2018:

The updating of the play equipment at the 2 village play parks was completed in July. Personally, I would like to thank Katie Eagle and Gemma Coe for their help in organising fund raising events in the village. The fundraising team managed to raise just over £4,000. Stradbroke was fortunate to be able to raise further funds from various groups including £10,000 from the Community Centre and £15,221 from Mid Suffolk District Council, this together with donations from businesses within the Parish and charities; coupled with the £15,000 the Parish Council allocated enabled us to reach the £63,000 target. A full breakdown of the pledges is available to view at the end of the meeting and will be attached to the minutes.

There have been many changes to the Parish Council since June 2015. I am aware that there have been concerns expressed outside of the Council as to the reasons for this. Due to Data Protection all I can say is this: 15 Councillors have resigned and as no election has been called the Parish Council has filled these vacancies by co-option. There is no common theme that has led to these resignations as evidenced by the following analysis of reasons given:

- 3 were unhappy with decisions reached by the Council;
- 3 were unhappy with the way the Council is now working;
- 3 due to internal disagreements within the Council;
- 3 due to harassment from outside of the Council; and
- 3 for other personal reasons not related to those already mentioned.

I would urge you all to bear in mind that this is over a 3 year period and therefore it is difficult to draw conclusions given the change in membership and issues discussed. It is also worth noting that in the preceding 3 year period there were also a total of 16 changes to the membership of the Council with 8 resignations, 4 Councillors not being re-elected and 4 new Councillors joining following an election. Councillors are volunteers who choose to join the Council, it takes many hours to fulfil the role which can be both challenging and rewarding in equal measure.

We are keen to improve the relationship the Council has with Trusts within the village with whom we have leases and licenses. The Council has recently formed an Assets Working Group to look at the assets it holds on behalf of the residents of Stradbroke and consider how best to manage them for the benefit of all. This will help secure these facilities for our children and, in due course, their children to be able to play in the play park, use the field, swim in the swimming pool and have a Doctor's surgery within walking distance.

We are really pleased that the neighbourhood plan has progressed so well this year. Whilst we did have a number of resignations from the working group, we also had a number of people join the group and they have all worked really hard and quickly to complete it with a huge amount of help from our Clerk.

The plan is now in the final stages with what is called a "Section 16 consultation" being conducted by Mid Suffolk; this lasts 6 weeks. The plan then needs to go to a planning inspector in June and then to the final stage - a referendum – a date for this has yet to be

confirmed by Mid Suffolk. All the submitted documents are here tonight; please take some time at the end to have a look whilst enjoying some refreshments that will be provided. Alternatively, you can find them all on the Mid Suffolk District Council's website.

We did carry out an extensive public consultation on site allocations this year. This is always a difficult topic as it is impossible to please everyone in the village when it comes to deciding the best places for future housing. However public responses were very clear about where the village did NOT want housing with the proposed development North of Westhall the least popular site. The Council has robustly challenged the planning application for this site. And we are grateful to Cllr Julie Flatman for organising a meeting with the planning department at Mid Suffolk.

During the course of this year, the Parish Council has reviewed its policies and procedures to ensure they are up to date with national guidance and in collaboration with the Suffolk Association of Local Councils – our advisory body. This will be an ongoing process throughout the coming year too, particularly given the changes that are being introduced to Data Protection legislation.

The Parish Council were pleased to be able to support the Stradbroke Sports and Community Centre's grant application for almost £28,000 from Mid Suffolk to enable them to carry out essential works on the building.

Stradbroke was honoured to receive not one but two awards at the annual meeting of the Suffolk Association of Local Councils. Thanks go to Lynsey Smith who was heavily involved in putting Stradbroke forward in the Most Active Village category and she was delighted to be able to collect the award for Joint Winners – Large Village. The newly launched Parish Council website also achieved a "special commendation" in the large council category.

Finally, we have been lucky this year in Stradbroke to have hosted a sprint stage of the Tour of Britain, I must extend the Parish Council's thanks to Claire Hargrave who worked very hard to make the day one to remember with the support of Lynsey Smith. Thanks also to Radio Stradbroke for broadcasting throughout the day and reaching many thousands online in the process. The Church looked particularly impressive thanks to the efforts of the flag deck party. The organisers must have been very impressed with the welcome they received in Stradbroke as they are planning a return visit with the Women's Tour on 13<sup>th</sup> June. Let's see if we can make them as welcome this time too.

**Stradbroke Play Park Fundraising Group FINANCE STATEMENT 2016/2017**

Money In	Quantity	£ Per	£ Total
Teddy Bear's Picnic Raffle	1	£110.00	£110.00
Back To School Picnic	1	£69.00	£69.00
Camp Out Sponsorship	1	£300.00	£300.00
Charity Calendar Photo	12	£20.00	£240.00
Charity Calendar Adverts	24	£20.00	£480.00
Charity Calendar Sales	159	£6.00	£954.00
Charity Calendar Sales 50%	27	£3.00	£81.00
Family Disco Tickets Child	74	£2.00	£148.00
Family Disco Tickets Adult	58	£3.00	£174.00
Family Disco Raffle	1	£115.00	£115.00
Family Disco Pizza & Sweets	1	£68.00	£68.00
FD Face Painting, Tattoos & Glowsticks	1	£102.90	£102.90
Family Disco Bar percentage of sales	1	£65.00	£65.00
Prize Squares	1	£117.50	£117.50
Bake Sale	1	£167.00	£167.00
Carboot and Jigsaws	1	£113.00	£113.00
Peter Johnson Bingo Sponsorship	1	£40.00	£40.00
Keyrings	11	£1.00	£11.00
Bingo Night Books	1	£567.50	£567.50
Bingo Night Bar	1	£195.50	£195.50
Christmas Light Switch On Collection	1	£89.00	£89.00
Mothership Caroling Collection	1	£45.80	£45.80
Stradisceer	1	£110.00	£110.00
Tiddlywinks Xmas Jumper Sponsorship	1	£105.00	£105.00
<b>Total Fundraising Gross</b>			<b>£4,468.20</b>
<b>Total Fundraising Expenses</b>			<b>£341.50</b>
<b>Net fundraising figure</b>			<b>£4,126.70</b>
Davidons Donation	1	£80.00	£80.00
EW Fitness Donation	1	£30.00	£30.00
SAS Donation	1	£1,900.00	£1,900.00
Church Art Exhibition Fund Donation	1	£300.00	£300.00
Skinners Donation	1	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
Clarke & Simpsons Donation	1	£250.00	£250.00
Village Lottery Donation	1	£48.00	£48.00
NFU Mutual	1	£200.00	£200.00
Rattlerow Farms Donation	1	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
<b>Total Donations</b>			<b>£5,808.00</b>
Parish Council	1	£15,000.00	£15,000.00
Community Centre	1	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
Locality Grant	1	£2,800.00	£2,800.00
Suffolk Rural Fund	1	£4,000.00	£4,000.00
Adnams Charity Grant	1	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
Tesco Bags For Help	1	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Guy McGregor CC Donation	1	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
Suffolk Rural Fund	1	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
<b>Total Grants</b>			<b>£37,800.00</b>
<b>Final Total:</b>			<b>£47,734.70</b>

MSDC

£15,221.00

£62,955.70

## Stradbroke Annual Meeting 2018

April 2018

From the residents' viewpoint the most significant item is the fact that for the first time in many years there has been an increase in SCC's element of the Council Tax.

In addition a precept which will be used exclusively to fund Adult Social Care will be levied.

The availability of additional money for Adult Social Care is to be welcomed but the principle of whether Central Government should determine where Council Tax payers money should be spent is questionable.

The next significant item is the continued improvement of education provision in this part of Suffolk.

I continue to serve as a member of the Diocesan Education Committee.

Stradbroke Library has achieved national recognition for the variety of its services.

SCC Fire & Rescue Service is the most cost effective service in the country, however, I am not happy with the proposals that control should be passed to the Police & Crime Commissioner.

Care UK 's splendid new Care Home (Hartismere Place) is now over a year old and I do urge you to pop in for tea. This Care Home is a wonderful facility and it is a credit to the provider and to the vision of Suffolk CC.

Paddock House has now been sold to MSDC and I hope we can see a quality redevelopment on this site. Although MSDC seems to be taking a long time to make up its mind and carry out meaningful consultation.

We all know that we have had a severe winter, but I am not convinced that SCC's response could have been better (especially on A140).

The methodology used by SCC in reporting highway defects and repairing them leaves much to be desired. This is especially true about the speed warning sign on the entry to Stradbroke from Hoxne,

My thanks to the Parish Council. In these difficult times it does splendid work in promoting the Parish.

Guy McGregor

County Councillor, Hoxne & Eye Division



# SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY

## SaferNeighbourhoods

Eye SNT, The Lodge, Castleton Way, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7BH

Tel: 101 Email: [eye.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:eye.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)

[www.suffolk.police.uk](http://www.suffolk.police.uk) Twitter: @HaleswrthPolice

### ANNUAL REPORT FOR STRADBROKE PARISH COUNCIL 2018

#### Reported Crimes

Between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 and 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 there has been 79 recorded investigations in the locality.

The investigations are classified as follows;

- 9 x Assaults (including domestic related offences)
- 9 x Criminal Damage (including Arson)
- 11 x Thefts (including attempted offences)
- 8 x Public Order Offences
- 6 x Non-Dwelling Burglaries (including attempted offences)
- 3 x Dwelling Burglaries (including attempted offences)
- 13 x Other Crimes
- 20 x Non-Crime & Historic Investigations (including safeguarding & ASB)

Over the same period in the 12 months prior there were 60 recorded crimes. This shows an increase of 31%. Some of this increase can be explained by changes in the recording of Non-Crime investigations and Vulnerable Person referrals.

#### Local Interest

**Crime** – The most significant crimes to have taken place over the year involve a number of sheds being broken into on the allotments. In response to the police held a drop-in session to discuss shed security and attended the site to provide a crime reduction survey.

A ram-raid took place at the Spar Shop and as a direct result of information supplied by the public on the night a male was arrested in Essex and has been charged for the offence.

**ASB** – The Constabulary has been working with partners and local organisations to bring a Youth Engagement Programme to Stradbroke in an attempt to prevent Anti-Social Behaviour that has been experienced in previous years.

Funding has been secured and we are in the latter stages of planning, it is hoped the programme will commence this summer.



**Staff – September 2017** a new Constable was appointed into the SNT. PC 1856 Peck replaced PC Andrews-Pearce as the Eye SNT PC.

November 2017 saw the PCSO Long leave Eye SNT after 10 years of service in the locality. PCSO Long has joined Norfolk Constabulary as a PC.

December 2017 saw the return of PCSO Kane Martin to Eye SNT as a direct replacement for PCSO Long. PCSO Martin has previously worked in the Eye area.

### **County Wide Crime Trends**

There has been a force wide increase in acquisitive crime. Published figures show a total of 689 burglary & vehicle related theft offences for February 2018 and increase of 165 incidents on the same period in 2017.

**IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION OR ARE SUSPICIOUS ABOUT ANYTHING  
REPORT IT ON 101 and IF YOU THINK A CRIME IS BEING COMMITTED  
ALWAYS DIAL 999.**

### **General**

In response to the increase in theft from motor vehicle and residential non-dwelling burglaries (shed/garage break-ins) Suffolk Police would like to promote our TOOL SMART Campaign; S-secure, M-Mark And R-Register T-Tools.

The Safer Neighbourhood Team have held a number of community engagements to promote the advice and more engagements are planned for the summer.

Photograph and record valuable items on nationally recognised website, such as [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)  
Consider the use of tracking devices and marking property with “traceable solutions” like SmartWater®.



### **Police Connect**

Police Connect is a messaging service connecting you to the very latest policing news for your area via e-mail, text or phone.

There is no charge for this service - all messages you receive are free.

You can register to receive information about the issues that most matter to you and be among the first to be alerted by police in the case of an emergency affecting your area.

There is the option to receive information about a range of specific interest areas – such as ‘rural’ or ‘rivers and coastal’ – as well as updates for business owners and news from your Police and Crime Commissioner.

You can register for Police Connect [here](#).



## Stradbroke High School

I am delighted to report that Stradbroke High School had another very successful academic year close in August 2017. The examination results attained, once again, put our school high up in the Government's performance tables. In all the varied ways that schools are measured, Stradbroke outperformed national averages. In one such measure, 59% of our students attained the new, more challenging, Grade 5 in both English and maths, an outcome which made us the second highest performing school in the whole of Suffolk. As our current students enter their own exam season we know that they are working hard and are confident that they will do themselves justice in their exams and go on to achieve great things in the future.

The biggest change in school, this academic year, has been joining the Sapientia Education Trust. We are working within this trust with one other high school (Wymondham College) and eight primary schools. Another high school (Framingham Earl) is joining next month, and other schools will be joining in the fullness of time. This change is already bringing benefits as the schools work together to enhance the experiences of our students. Staff from the schools are sharing ideas and resources, the Trust has secured Government funding to replace our flat roof and there will be a transport link for those of our students who want to go to the sixth form at Wymondham College.

In January, we were pleased to welcome Ofsted inspectors into school. They confirmed our status as a good school, and recognised our improvements since the last report in 2013. Among other findings, the inspectors reported that:

- Students feel very safe, are free from bullying and feel listened to.
- Pupils are respectful to staff and each other.
- This is a friendly, inclusive school that welcomes pupils from different backgrounds.
- The additional capacity provided by joining the Sapientia Education Trust has ensured the school is well on its way to reach its aspiration to become outstanding at the time of its next inspection.
- Proportions of pupils attaining higher grades are well above average.
- Outcomes in the key subjects including English, mathematics, humanities and religious education are high.
- Leaders know the school well, and the school is ably led.

There have been very many other events at the school this academic year:

- Students have benefitted from a huge variety of educational trips and visits as well as welcoming visitors into school. Among these: Nineteen students went to Madrid last week on a football development tour, others have been to London to visit a mosque, there have been numerous trips to theatres, geography field trips, and our Duke of Edinburgh programme continues to be popular and successful.
- As a school we pride ourselves on thinking about others and have had a number of successful charity events.
- We continue to be grateful to The Friends of Stradbroke High School for their hard work and commitment in raising substantial amounts of funding for the benefit of our students.

I am proud that Stradbroke High School continues to serve this parish and surrounding area by providing high quality education to our students, and giving them all the opportunity to develop into well rounded individuals.

John Axtell  
Head of School



**Stradbroke CE Primary School**  
Queens Street, Stradbroke, Suffolk, IP21 5HH  
(01379) 384415

Executive Head Teacher – Mrs Melanie Barrow  
Head of School – Mrs Hannah Hunt  
[www.stradbroke.suffolk.sch.uk](http://www.stradbroke.suffolk.sch.uk)

## **Report to Stradbroke Annual Parish Meeting – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

This has been another busy year for Stradbroke Primary School! We were pleased to receive a letter from Nick Gibb, the Schools Minister in the DfE congratulating us on our SATs results. This is the second year in a row that we have received such a letter.

As you may be aware, Stradbroke Primary School has been part of a federation with All Saints Primary School in Laxfield for a number of years. The two schools share an Executive Headteacher, Melanie Barrow, and a Governing Body.

This year we joined with three other schools – St Peter and St Paul Primary in Eye, Fressingfield Primary and Wortham Primary to create an exciting new multi academy trust called the All Saints Schools Trust.

The All Saints Schools Trust opened on 1 April and has been created to enable both church and community primary schools to work together. The five schools are now academies and the Trust is responsible for running them, employing all the staff and looking after finances and buildings. Last week three other schools, Dennington Primary School, Charsfield Primary School and Occold Primary School began consulting parents and other stakeholders about joining the Trust. If all goes well these schools will join in September.

Melanie Barrow has now been with us for just over 10 years, joining us as one of the youngest Headteachers in the country and then leading both Stradbroke and Laxfield schools and is now the CEO of the All Saints Schools Trust as well as our Executive Headteacher.

School transport as an issue SCC want to withdraw all transport for post 16 - pleased to hear the link to Wyndham from the high school.

This year saw the opening of the external stage in the playground at the front of the school. If you have not noticed this take a look the next time you walk past the school. This was a joint project between the Friends of the School and the Governing Body who each provided half of the funds and we are very grateful for the work the Friends do for the school every year.

I wanted to draw your attention to changes to school transport proposed by Suffolk County Council that would if implemented see all transport withdrawn for children Post 16 years old. We welcome the High School's proposed transport links to Wymondham College. We think Suffolk children should have the same opportunities to travel to School as other children do across the country.

On a personal note I have now been the Chair of Governors at Stradbroke Primary School for 12 years and will be stepping down at the end of this academic year so I can focus on my new role as Chair of Trustees at the All Saints Schools Trust.

Stradbroke is very fortunate to have two excellent schools and this is something we should all be proud of.

**James Hargrave**

Chair of Governors

All Saints Laxfield and Stradbroke Local Governing Body

**Stradbroke Church of England Primary School is part of the All Saints Schools Trust.**

A charitable company limited by guarantee.

Registered in England and Wales. Company Number: 11216388.

# STRADBROKE CHARITABLE TRUST

Trustees: Peter Smith ~~Marilyn Curran~~ ~~Judy Andrews~~ Roger Turkington, ~~Gerald Jenkins~~,  
Hayfield House, Neaves Lane, Stradbroke, Suffolk. IP21 5HX

Tel: 01379 384047,

Registered Number: 1050891

Chairman's Report April 30<sup>th</sup> 2018

The Trust has not had an easy year. We are in the process of changing to a C.I.O. ( Charitable Incorporated Organisation ) enabling us, like an individual, to own land and enter into contracts in are own name. C.I./O.'s also have a limited liability for debts or lawsuits.

I am pleased to announce that we have a new Trustee Mike Grigg, I am sure he will be a great asset and help with our new projects.

We have continued to keep the Surgery in excellent condition and have installed self opening doors for the patients costing £8322, we have also added a heater to the reception area. The C.Q.C. insisted that a roller shutter door had to be installed in the drug dispensary hatch, this cost us £1290, we gave a £2000 donation to Wilby Primary School for a new outdoor learning area, A new pipe has been installed under the gateway to the allotments, this should prevent any repeat flooding of the area, a new fence will also be erected between the bungalow and the Surgery. We have given a donation of £500 to Stradbroke High school to ease the cost of a trip to the Globe Theatre in London.

The Surgery plumbing has been a problem this year but it is now sorted. Insurance for the Storage Shed, Allotments and the Surgery have to be paid each year, as has the gardener, add to these the servicing of the Air Con units, the bill then spirals to well over £1,500.

The allotments are nearly all let out and they continue to be a great asset for the whole area as there are several tenants from other villages hiring allotments.

I hope that the Trust can continue to look after the Surgery, I am always amazed at the amount of time the Trustees give with no financial gain whatsoever.

Once more I thank them all for the huge amount of time they give to the Trust and of course Stradbroke benefits from this.

We have one large new project in the pipeline, we hope to soon push forward with this.

P. D. Smith ( Chairman )



## **STRADBROKE COURTHOUSE & LIBRARY TRUST**

The Courthouse continues to flourish with the Post Office and Library very well used. The Café, run by a dedicated band of volunteers is very popular on Thursday and Saturday mornings where good coffee and homemade cakes etc. are served. Once a month on a Saturday, we add to our usual menu by serving Bacon Baps. On the first Friday of the month we are now holding a 'Friday Friends' dementia-friendly café.

We have had several successful fundraising events throughout the year including community suppers, vintage teas, a summer lunch party and cinema events.

We have nearly finished our upstairs refurbishment, which will house 'The Stradbroke Village Archive' and a small meeting room for community use.

Maureen John chair of SCALT

## **Report from Stradbroke Good Neighbours, for the Annual Parish Meeting**

Carol Darling, Treasurer Stradbroke Good Neighbours

We had a very busy year as usual. We currently have seventy four clients on our list, many of whom use the service regularly. We currently have twenty eight volunteer drivers, some of whom are able to undertake the journeys to hospitals, others taking on local runs, such as to doctors' surgeries and dentists. Four of our volunteers are also 'phone holders and take it in turn to take calls from clients, book a driver and keep the log up to date. As well as transport, we also offer services such as checking smoke alarms, changing light bulbs and collecting prescriptions from surgeries.

We are a member of CAS and, and our volunteers receive 40p/mile towards their costs. Our expenses are insurance and the running of a mobile 'phone. Any donations from clients go towards covering these costs, and we gratefully receive donations from the Village Lottery Fund. The Stradbroke Charitable Trust and the Parish Council make additional donations if funds run low.

To give you some idea of a year in the life of Stradbroke Good Neighbours, we have some interesting statistics from 2017. Over these twelve months, the total number of journeys was 543, averaging just over ten a week, 193 of these were to Stradbroke and Fressingfield surgeries. The total distance travelled was over 15,000 miles at a cost to clients of over £6,000. There were a total of 139 visits to hospitals, the majority of these to Ipswich and the Norfolk and Norwich. The total distance for these journeys was over 7,000 miles at a cost of £2830.

As you can see from these figures, this is a valued service, particularly with the availability of hospital transport being so limited. We would welcome any new drivers to help to lighten the load. If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in volunteering, please contact Jane Gemmill or me.

Thank you.



## Stradbroke Monthly – Governance Board Annual Report 2018

It has been yet another busy and productive 12 months for the Stradbroke Monthly in which our dedicated delivery team have brought approx 7500 Monthlies to homes in the village, free of charge. The Governing Board has met three times, and adheres to its remit of being a supportive, pragmatic and forward looking group.

Your village newsletter continues to be self sufficient and big thanks are due to those who support the monthly by taking out adverts or volunteering their time to produce and distribute it – The Stradbroke Monthly is maintaining its proud position of being **by the village, for the village.**

A huge thank you also must go to Odile, who now volunteers her time to act as administrator and clerk to the board, which has been a huge boost to our efficiency and organisation.

Our page 2 advertising initiative allowing contributors and advertisers to reserve a one month full page advert has been very popular, and is now a permanent option. The feedback from submitters is that they like the prominent position, that having the option for full control of the layout and content is helpful and it is fairly priced.

And finally the Editors. I would like to thank the editors who continue to work many hours every month to make all this happen – as ever, their dedication and humour is much appreciated. Helen Pleasance retired from the magazine during this year, and I know the rest of the editorial team miss her wise input, insightful humour and occasional arson during copy reading meetings.

We look forward to another year serving the vibrant village of Stradbroke.

Kate Axon

Chair of the Stradbroke Monthly Governance Board

## **Stradbroke Sports & Community Centre**

### **Report to Annual Parish Meeting – 26th April 2018**

The Community Centre has enjoyed another very successful year with an increase in bookings. Once again, we have some repair bills to pay and, as the building ages, there will of course be more expense. It is encouraging to see the use of the Community Centre grow, with a wide range of diverse groups and activities and the 'profit share' scheme with clubs using the bar, helps increase our turnover.

Following unsuccessful advertising for the position, Roger Turkington took on the role of Bookings Manager. He has created an online booking system and clients can now view the site to check out availability before contacting him to make a booking. Invoices are done online, making the system efficient. With over 30 different clubs and societies regularly using the Centre, anything that makes the Bookings Manager's job easier, can only be a good thing! Roger was asked to return to our Committee in January this year.

Although bookings have increased year on year the diary is still not completely full and we look forward to continued growth. However, for logistical reasons there are still occasions when we have to turn away some bookings, which would have provided yet more activities, for everyone in the village. At the end of 2017, the SSCC was fortunate enough, following a huge effort by Roger Turkington, to acquire grants of £27,907.37 from 106 Money, £6,000 from Mid Suffolk District Council Community Fund, £1,000 from the Julie Flatman's Locality Budget, with the balance for the work made up from our own funds. This funding has allowed us to replace the ceiling lights in the Main Hall and Webb Room and replace the heating in both these rooms with a Far Infra-Red system. Both these systems are much more ecologically- friendly. The old staging has been removed and we now have a flexible system allowing a stage to be positioned where users prefer and can also be tiered for Stradbroke Cinema. We have installed sound-proof doors between the Main Hall and Webb Room, enabling meetings to take place in both rooms with much less noise interference. We will shortly be installing a new sound system and projector which will enhance the Stradbroke Cinema experience and also hand-held microphones will be available for meetings. Finally, when all the work has finished we will be decorating the Main Hall, Webb Room, Club Room and Entrance Hall.

Stradbroke Cinema continues to be popular with one of our best audiences for the year being 71 for 'Lion'. We have introduced a voting system 3 times a year, prior to one of the showings, when all our Cinemagoers can choose the following season's films

We held a very successful 'Curry Night' in November 2017 and are planning on repeating a similar event later this year. Other ideas for the future are a Fun Sports Day, traditional Village Fair and Music nights – so watch out for the posters!

We were delighted to welcome Maria Smith and Julia Novell to the SSCC Committee in February and look forward to their fresh ideas and enthusiasm

We had offered to take over responsibility for the Community Store from The Stradbroke Trust. This would have expanded our facilities for the benefit of the community, but unfortunately, through no fault of The Trust, the Council deemed that the license was not transferable.

I'd now like to record my thanks to everyone on the Committee, without whose support, the Community Centre could not succeed. The amount of time the Committee members freely give, often at the drop of a hat is phenomenal and I am very grateful for this. As always, a very special Vote of Thanks must go to David Merritt, who continues to give an enormous amount of his time to keep the Community Centre running so smoothly.

Finally, our AGM is here on May 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm and everyone is welcome to attend.

Jane Merritt - Chairman



## Report for Parish Council AGM 2018 From All Saints Parish Church, Stradbroke

**Your Parish Church** continues to endeavour to serve the community here in Stradbroke, we are a small congregation but we are doing our best with the resources we have. We now share a service with our Baptist brothers and sisters bi-monthly when we can worship together in each other's church.

We are here to celebrate the birth of children with services of Thanksgiving and Baptism, we are pleased to be here to prepare people for marriage and celebrate with them and their families on their wedding day. We are also here to support those who have lost a loved one through death, perhaps with a service here in church or at a crematorium.

We welcome the primary school coming into church to celebrate the festivals of Harvest, Christmas and Easter as well as their leavers service and we are pleased to support the school by taking an interest in the life of the school, by supplying governors, some help to finance various events; and taking assemblies; either the clergy or the Open the Book team, which is a group of local people who go into school to tell and act out bible stories. We are also pleased to support the high school in any way we can; they come into church for their Carol Service and myself and Rev Cathy Bladen our curate, take turns to go into school every Monday lunchtime as chaplains. As chaplains we are not there to convert anyone, but we are there to support pupils and staff, to listen and encourage them, and pray for them all regularly, asking for God's blessing upon the school and all who work or learn there.

We are very grateful to the many people from the village who are involved in helping clean the church and producing lovely flower displays, especially at the main festivals of Harvest, Easter and Christmas. We are thankful too for any financial support that comes from people in the village and visitors. Our church building is a listed building and costs a lot to maintain and this is borne on the whole by church members, so other help is very much appreciated.

The Friends of the church have worked extremely hard this year in applying for funding to both pay for much needed maintenance – the roof leaks badly etc., and to remodel the interior to make a better community space. Unfortunately, the application was turned down, so we will have to think again about how we can maintain the building.

Although Stradbroke is one of six parishes in the benefice, which means that I don't personally get time to be at more events in the village, I try to be available for anyone who wants to talk about things spiritual or otherwise. I am grateful for my fellow ministers' lay and ordained who work alongside me.

We have a regular prayer time every Monday morning in the rectory at 10.00am – 10.30am to pray for people who we are aware of that need God's comfort and peace, anyone is welcome to come along. As the parish church we are committed to be an active part of the community, helping where resources allow, and praying for God's blessing on all the people and businesses in the village.

Signed



rector

Rev Susan Loxton

## W.I. Report for the Parish Council Meeting

Mention the W.I. and a vision is conjured up of elderly ladies making jam, and cakes and singing Jerusalem. Come along to one of our meeting and you will see how wrong you can be.

The W.I. is a NON POLITICAL and NON SECTARIAN ORGANISATION where everyone is welcome at their monthly meetings.

The Stradbroke branch is thriving, with its membership presently standing at 43. We are a group of lively, intelligent ladies, full of creativity, humour, and common sense, who care passionately about the environment and community we live in, supporting it as we do in many ways, and are always available when help is requested. Next week we aim to rid the village of litter by having a Litter Pick.

We are now four months into a superb, interesting and diverse programme of speakers for the year, ranging from Air Navigation, to Foundlings, from Alfred Hitchcock, to Ice-cream, and so much more.

On the social side our Clubs, Luncheon, Book, Circle Dancing and Kurling are well supported and much enjoyed. Our Summer Buffet and Christmas Dinner are both somewhat special and would put many a hotels offerings in the shade.

We hear so much about loneliness these days and how to combat it. An evening with the W.I. gives you entertainment, education, a sense of belonging and most of all a lot of fun, so why not come along and see for yourselves. Thank you.



***Stradbroke Cricket Club***  
***"A Home of Cricket since 1743"***



**ANNUAL REPORT 2018**

Stradbroke Cricket Club continue to survive, if not thrive, at a time when the sport is declining, particularly among the young, who's increasingly sedentary lifestyles, & the knock on effects on their wellbeing, is an issue that really should given more attention, & I thank Stradbroke Parish Council for giving us the platform to highlight this.

As a Club, last year, & again this, we have coached cricket to around 250 pupils from ages 5 to 11 at Stradbroke, Wilby, Laxfield, & Fressingfield Primary Schools, in an attempt to resurrect the popularity of cricket firstly, & increase junior membership at the Club secondly. We are indebted to Suffolk County Council, & Heveningham Hall Country Fair Trust, for their financial backing through grants, allowing us to send qualified coaches into these schools.

While the demographic of the village does not lend itself to an influx of adult cricketers, the senior team continues to compete in the Two Counties League & the Suffolk 20/20 Cup, to hopefully leave a legacy for those 250 children to still have a Cricket Club to be part of.

It may not have escaped your notice that 2018 is 275 years since Stradbroke took part in the first recorded cricket match in Suffolk, in 1743. Various celebratory events & matches are being planned, & hopefully that sense of history will galvanise more people to support the Club in some capacity, ensuring there is still a Cricket Club in Stradbroke come the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We are delighted that a similarly long standing Stradbroke business; Skinners, have kindly agreed to sponsor the Club. Working together provides stability. There is a lesson to everyone. Thank you.

Michael Hugman  
Chairman

Stradbroke Youth FC – Report to Annual Parish Meeting April 26<sup>th</sup> 2018-04-26

The youth football club has 3 age groups. U8s, U10s, and U12s. The U8s and U12s attend training sessions only since there are insufficient numbers in either group to enter a team into the youth league. The U8s is a small group and still learning the basics of dribbling and passing. The U12s are a mixed group of talented boys and girls with over 20 players regularly turning up for training, but insufficient numbers in any age group to be able to enter a team into the league. Nevertheless they are a very active group and come training regularly. The U10s run by Callum Muttock, play in the Ipswich and Suffolk youth league and although they are not the most talented team in the league they enjoy turning up both to training and for the games on Sunday.

The club is always looking for volunteers to help with the organisation. It is run primarily by parents of children playing for the club. This means as the children move up in age and leave the club so their respective parents leave the committee. We are therefore keen to have any new parents who might be interested in volunteering to help run the club. They can contact me on 01379 388098.

Thankyou

Don Darlign

Vice Chairman and Coach for SYFC

## **District Councillor's report Annual Meeting**

### **Merger**

As you no doubt have heard the merger with Babergh has been put on hold. One of the major reasons was because the County Council have decided to consider unitary government. The County Council have engaged Respublica consultants to look into the way unitary government might work in Suffolk. The review is also to consider how an enhanced two-tier system might work.

### **Move to Endeavour House**

This was successfully completed in October/November and staff are well settled in now with the options of working from home, at the office or at any of the access points in Stowmarket and Sudbury. Most of the staff appear to be happy with these arrangements. We have also moved to having one phone number and one email as contact which, after a few teething problems, appear to be working very well. Cabinet member for housing Jill Wilshaw has had quite a lot of experience with this as she has to contact the council in her role as an Adviser at the CAB, which initially took over 40 minutes now takes 20 seconds to get connected. If anyone is having problems with this new system, then please let me know.

### **Needham Market HQ Site**

There were two evenings held in Needham for anyone to go along and see what we have planned for the site. Two options have been considered for the site, consisting of a 100% residential development, or a mixed residential and retail development, each striking a different balance, with associated masterplans drawn up.

The proposals the Council are considering would see much of the existing offices – the non-listed buildings in particular – demolished and a new development built in their place and on the former office car park.

### **The Needham Market School Site**

This consultation was held in conjunction with the HQ site consultation and most people who commented were for the change of use for housing although there were worries regarding the access.

### **Locality Budget**

This year all District Councillors were given £6,000 to spend as their Locality budget. £200 from all Councillor's went to the refurbishment of a new vehicle for the coffee caravan which was stolen from Great Ashfield. The rest I divided between my three parishes Laxfield, Stradbroke and Wilby.

I have now allocated all locality money and beneficiaries as follows

1	Stradbroke Over 60's	Indoor Kurling Set	£ 320.00
			£
2	Laxfield Parish Council	Village Pond Renovation	2,250.00
3	Wilby Village Hall	Scaffold tower for Village Hall	£ 250.00
4	Stradbroke Parish Council	Pictorial map for Stradbroke	£ 500.00
5	Fressingfield Scouts	Responsible weapons training	£ 350.00
		Refurbish room for village	£
6	Stradbroke Courthouse & Library Trust	archive	1,000.00

7	Stradbroke Sports & Community Centre	Projector for community use	£ 1,000.00
8	Wilby Village Hall	Chiller & Ice Machine	£ 330.00

£  
6,000.00

In addition, I gave £250.00 towards the new coffee caravan which was unfortunately stolen. The new one has a tracker attached in case the thieves attempt a return.

£  
6,000.00

### **New Council Homes**

MSDC has built 29 new council homes this year, 23 in Great Blakenham a mixture of 1 bed flats and 2 or 3 bed houses, 11 of these being shared ownership. I was lucky enough to be invited to the opening of the new houses in Laxfield in March, they consist of 2 x 2 bed houses and 4 x 1 bed flats. These homes are lovely and spacious. There are more in the pipeline to be completed this year.

### **Ex National Westminster Bank Site**

We have just completed the purchase of this building and we are market testing on its future use. However, we have made a commitment to the John Peel Centre to provide them with access to the High Street. A consultation has been arranged with the Stowmarket Society to gather views from the local community as to their suggestions.

### **Regal Theatre, Stowmarket**

In February it was decided to invest some money along with the Stowmarket Town Council in the redevelopment of the Regal Theatre. This decision demonstrates we are committed to Stowmarket as our key town within the district, builds on the cultural and creative offer that already exists in Stowmarket and will enable the town to establish a more vibrant and sustainable town centre. The development is also anticipated to have a number of economic benefits for the town.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being your District Councillor again this year and I would like to thank the Parish Council, and the whole community for their help and support throughout this year. If you have anything you think I should be aware of or anything I can help you with, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Julie Flatman**

**District Councillor for Stradbroke and Laxfield Wards**

**Cabinet Member - Community Capacity Building & Engagement**

01986 798661 / 07736 759360

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**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT  
YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2017**

2015/16		2016/17		
	<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
£	29,967.00	Precept	£	29,967.00
£	1,415.83	Discretionary Grant	£	707.92
£	2,386.80	Agency Payments	£	3,978.00
£	144.09	Bank Interest	£	39.79
£	770.00	Cemetery	£	470.00
£	3,777.00	Locality & Footpath Grants	£	566.00
£	967.00	Miscellaneous Receipts	£	13,383.65
£	-	Surgery Rent	£	1,400.00
£	2,148.23	VAT Reimbursement	£	973.93
£	1,171.95	Media	£	44.00
£	<b>42,747.90</b>	<b>Total Receipts</b>	£	<b>51,530.29</b>
	<b>PAYMENTS</b>			
£	10,752.00	Clerks salary and NI expenses	£	9,232.84
£	3,905.22	Administration	£	740.54
£	1,643.25	General Expenditure	£	3,272.99
£	4,202.39	S137	£	1,452.50
£	6,444.52	Highways	£	33,660.65
£	5,063.86	Cemetery/Churchyard	£	3,107.26
£	1,643.25	Property Other	£	523.95
£	-	Neighbourhood Plan	£	987.50
£	100.00	Recreation	£	968.27
£	4,510.25	Loan Capital	£	4,640.64
£	1,277.07	Loan Interest	£	1,146.68
£	-	Bank Charges	£	130.00
£	3,467.00	Media	£	217.66
£	973.93	VAT	£	6,245.66
£	<b>43,982.74</b>	<b>Total Payments</b>	£	<b>66,327.14</b>

**STRADBROKE MONTHLY**

Receipts	£	7,330.70
Payments	£	3,433.10

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY**

2015/16		2016/17		
£	68,811.22	Balance as at 1 April	£	67,576.38
£	42,747.90	Total receipts	£	58,860.99
£	43,982.74	Less Payments	£	69,760.24
£	<b>67,576.38</b>	<b>balance c/f</b>	£	<b>56,677.13</b>

**Bank reconciliation:**

Account Balances at 1 April 2016	£ 67,576.38
add Receipts in the year	£ 58,860.99
deduct Payments in the year	£ 69,760.24
Account Balances at 31 March 2017	<u>£ 56,677.13</u>

**Represented by:**

Unity Trust Current A/c		£ 13,056.58
Less Unpresented cheques	300221 £	<u>244.80</u>
Current A/c available funds		£ 12,811.78
Unity Trust Deposit A/c		£ 39,967.75
Stradbroke Monthly A/c		£ 3,897.60
		<u>£ 56,677.13</u>

**Reserved Funds**

Playpark Equipment	£	30,735.00
Maintenance	£	3,139.00
Neighbourhood Plan	£	5,908.00
Election Costs	£	250.00
Recreation	£	-
Community Projects	£	1,200.00
Churchyard & Cemetery	£	4,500.00
Traffic Calming	£	3,000.00
Playing Field Drainage	£	2,500.00
Stradbroke Monthly	£	3,897.60
Other	£	1,547.53
	£	<u>56,677.13</u>

Signed: Stuart Gemmill 10th April 2017  
 Mr Stuart Gemmill Date  
 Chair

Signed: Odile Wladon 10th April 2017  
 Miss Odile Wladon Date  
 Responsible Finance Officer